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MORGAN + J. PALMIOTTI '93
DEATH IN THE DARK

HIS FAMILY WAS MURDERED BY A PSYCHOPATH IN AN AGE WHERE JUSTICE CAN BE BOUGHT AND NO ONE BELIEVES IN OLD-FASHIONED *PUNISHMENT* ANYMORE... NO ONE EXCEPT *JAKE GALLOWS*... A WEAPONS SPECIALIST IN THE *PUBLIC EYE* POLICE FORCE BY DAY, AT NIGHT HE IS INCORRUPTIBLE JUSTICE. STAN LEE PRESENTS:

THE PUNISHER 2099

REMAINING AUTO-GUNS TAKEN OUT, MR. SLITHAR. EIGHT MEN DOWN, SIX LEFT.
HOW UNFORTUNATE... MY BONUS WILL BE AFFECTED...
HOWEVER, TERMINATING MR. PUNISHER HERE SHOULD MAKE UP FOR IT.
I'LL GET A PLAT CARD OUT OF THIS... AND SOME OF YOU GUYS SHOULD BE COMING UP FOR GOLD.
COME ON, SLITHAR... SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO DIE, TOO. YOU WON'T GET PAID EXTRA FOR KILLING HER.
TRUE. BUT I HAPPEN TO ENJOY MY WORK.
GOODBYE!
SMACK
AARGH!
HEY--PUN... DO I GET A GOLD CARD FOR THIS...?

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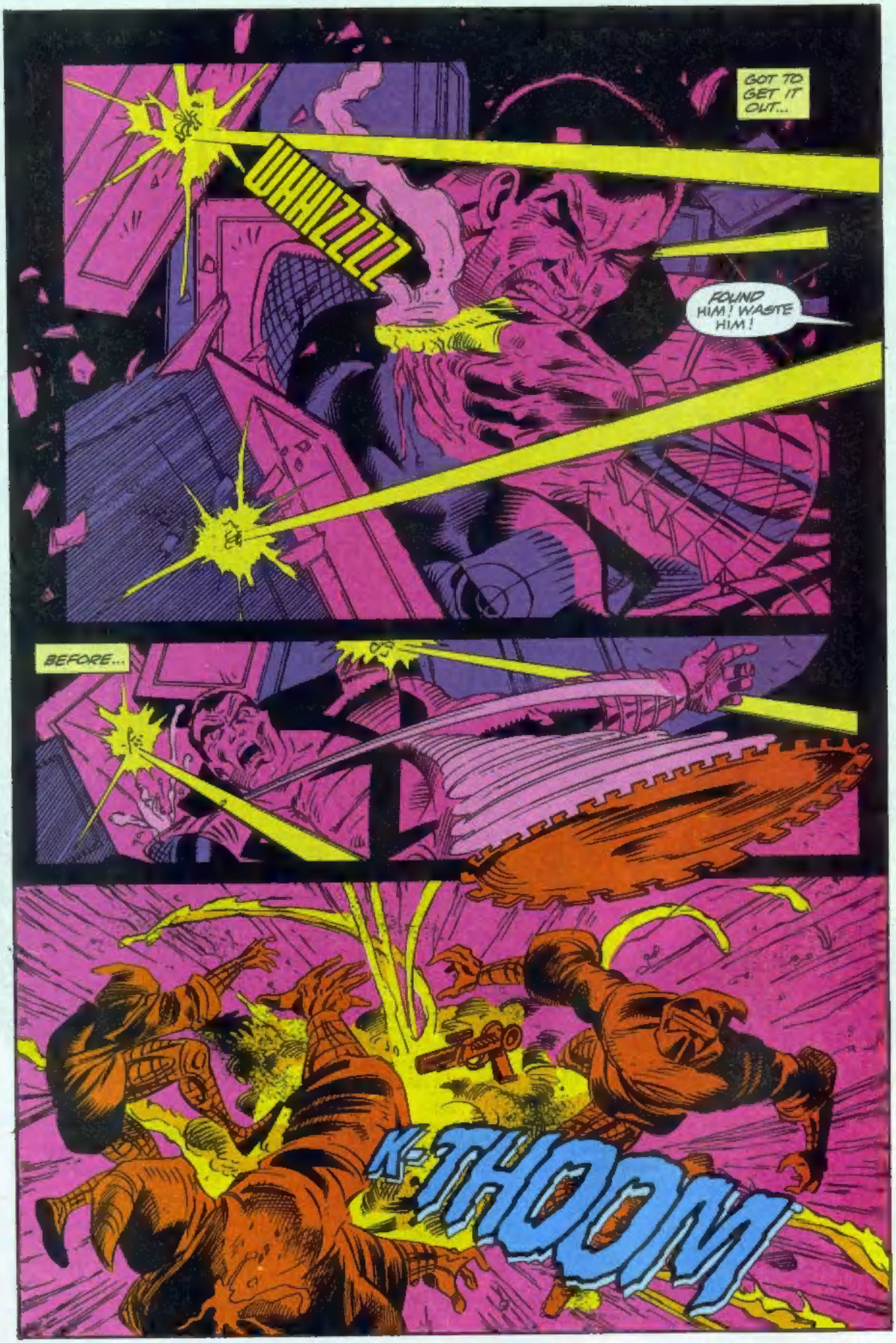
Scanned by Tato

SNAPP
SHOOTING THE BOSS LOSES YOU BONUS POINTS, BOYS!
KERRY... STAY DOWN, TILL I CLEAN UP THIS MESS!
ZIPP
ZIPP
ZIPP

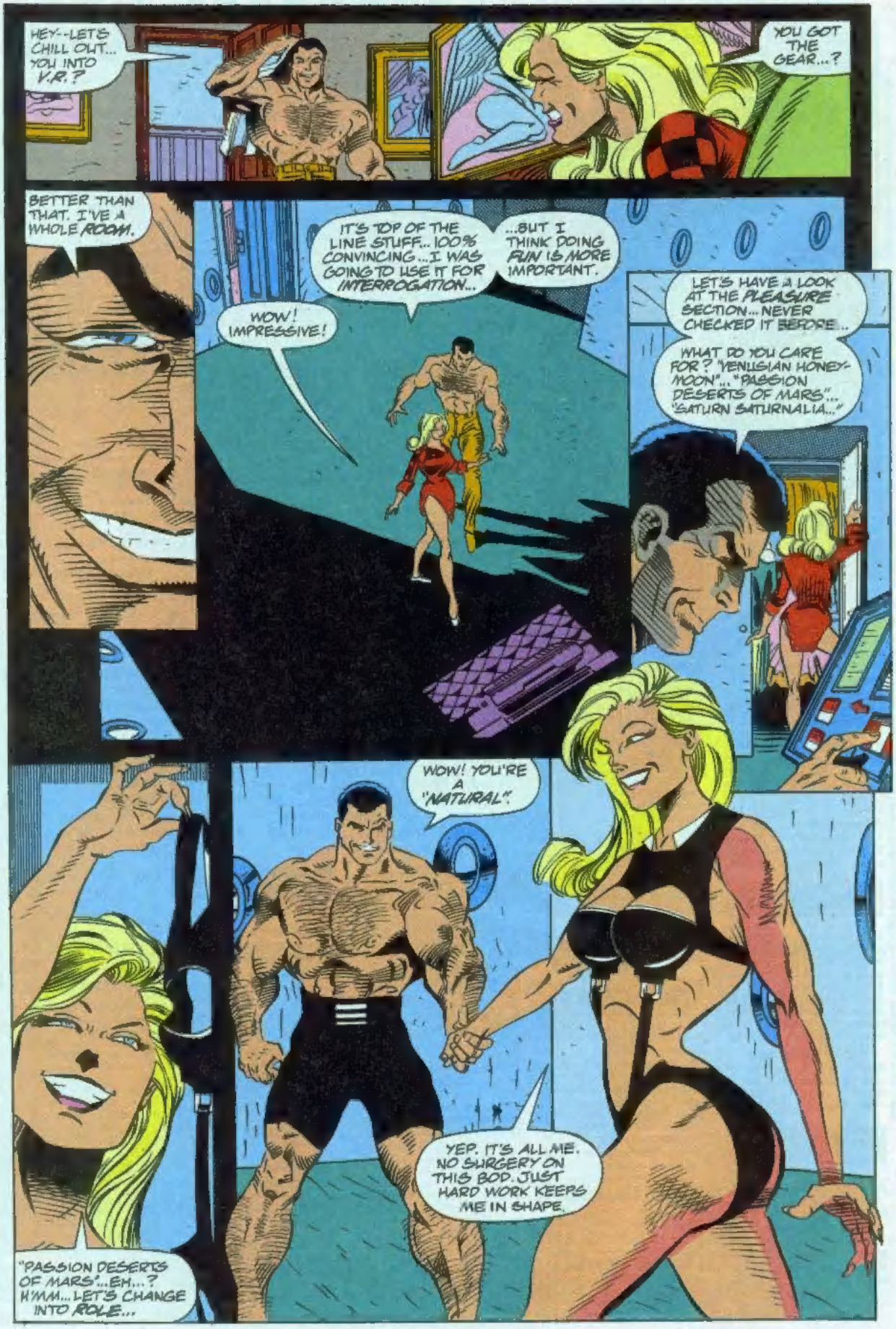
NIGHT-SIGHTS ON...! I'M TAKING OUT THE LIGHTS..!
SHOCK IT! I HAVEN'T GOT NIGHT VISION..
AND I CAN'T SHOUT AN OVER-RIDE COMMAND TO HOUSE DEFENSES FOR EMERGENCY LIGHTING...
THZZZZZ
...AND THESE AREN'T ORDINARY STREET THUGS. THEY'RE HIGHLY TRAINED TECHNO-KILLERS.
BECAUSE THEY'LL KNOW WHERE I AM...
AHHHHHH!
HEAT-SEEKING SHURIKEN GRENADE! I CAN HEAR IT...
THUNK


GOT TO GET IT OUT...
WHIZZZZ
FOUND HIM! WASTE HIM!
BEFORE...
K-THOOM

DOM...? JACEY...? ARE YOU OKAY?
NOW I KNOW WHERE YOU ARE, CREEP.
AAAUGHH!
HOUSE DEFENSES, CODE THREE EMERGENCY... LIGHTS ON!
ALL DOWN. YOU OKAY, KERRY?
SHOCK ME! IF THE REST OF THE GUYS ON THE FORCE WERE LIKE YOU, THERE'D BE NO MORE CRIME!

YEAH--A ONE MAN KILLING MACHINE, AIN'T HE?
WHY DID YOU HELP US?
I GUESS 'CAUSE I LIKE THE CYBER-NOSTRA EVEN LESS THAN YOUR BOYFRIEND.
AND LIKE I SAID IN THE PAST, I'M WALKING OUT OF HERE.
DON'T EVEN THINK IT, DUKE.
DUKE... GET BACK IN YOUR CELL.
NO WAY, MAN. YOU OWE ME!
DUKE'S STILL SCUM... BUT I BELIEVE IN JUSTICE. I'VE GOT TO LET HIM GO.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD LET THE REST OF THEM GO, JAKE?
YEAH... I KNOW IT...
WHAT I DID SEEMED TO MAKE SENSE...BUT AS THE PAIN IN MY GUT GOES, I'M SEEING THINGS DIFFERENTLY.
I'M STILL HURT... BUT YOU'VE MADE A DIFFERENCE, KERRY. I DON'T FEEL I NEED TO DO THIS ANYMORE.
THE WORLD ISN'T SUCH A SICK PLACE, JAKE...THERE IS HOPE...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE ALONE ANY-MORE...
KEEP TALKING. I'M HEARING YOU.
YOU'VE GOT ME--IF YOU WANT ME.
WANT YOU...? I NEED YOU.


HEY--LET'S CHILL OUT... YOU INTO V.R.?
YOU GOT THE GEAR...?
BETTER THAN THAT. I'VE A WHOLE ROOM.
IT'S TOP OF THE LINE STUFF... 100% CONVINCING... I WAS GOING TO USE IT FOR INTERROGATION...
...BUT I THINK DOING FUN IS MORE IMPORTANT.
WOW! IMPRESSIVE!
LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT THE PLEASURE SECTION... NEVER CHECKED IT BEFORE...
WHAT DO YOU CARE FOR? "VENUSIAN HONEY-MOON"... "PASSION DESERTS OF MARS"... "SATURN SATURNALIA..."
WOW! YOU'RE A "NATURAL".
YEP. IT'S ALL ME. NO SURGERY ON THIS BOD. JUST HARD WORK KEEPS ME IN SHAPE.
"PASSION DESERTS OF MARS"... EH...? H'MM... LET'S CHANGE INTO ROLE...

BULLPEN BULLETINS

TOM TALKS

Hello, again!

A funny thing happened to me the other day at my friendly neighborhood comic book store. I was struck by a most uncanny revelation while looking over our ever-increasing competition. Large X's seemed to overflow the comic book racks, sweeping across them like [redacted] unstoppable tide! [redacted]

Sure, I realize that Marvel publishes X-MEN, UNCANNY X-MEN, CLASSIC X-MEN, X-MEN UNLIMITED, X-MEN ADVENTURES, X-FORCE and a few dozen other X-titles whenever time permits, but I'm not talking about our titles.

I'm referring to [redacted] of the other guys who are publishing comics featuring big X's plastered across their covers. If imitation [redacted] the sincerest form of flattery, I guess Marvel must be the most [redacted] comics company of all!

Curious as to how much praise our illustrious imitators wanted to heap on us, I spent an enjoyable few minutes flipping through their titles, and noting other similarities. It was great fun! Not only did I instantly spot half a dozen berserk, healing-factored, clawed individuals, but I also saw a couple of red, white and blue shield slingers as well!

Needless to say, we here at mighty Marvel are thrilled by all of the kind and thoughtful attention. It just goes to show, [redacted] blushingly admit, that our comics [redacted] still the standard by which [redacted] others [redacted] judged!

And speaking of judging, I think this calls for a contest! Every time you spot a character or comic book title which [redacted] obviously based on one of ours, I'd like you to send a letter to us ... and to [redacted] other publisher. We'll award Official Marvel No-prizes to the best letters, and I'm certain [redacted] the other publishers will have some kind words for you [redacted] well.

Mail [redacted] entries to:

The Mighty Marvel Mimic Contest
c/o Marvel Comics
[redacted] Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016

As for the other publishers, mail their entries to:

The Mighty Marvel Mimic Contest
c/o Their [redacted] and address

(And tell them that Two-fisted Tom sent you!)

The purpose of this contest [redacted] to have a little fun, not to insult or embarrass any one of our captivating copiers. Please keep your [redacted] polite and clever. There's never [redacted] excuse for rudeness!

Thanks for being there!

Tom D.

Here we are, several weeks into the summer, and we haven't done one of those traditional "ode to summer" pages yet.

So we asked our creative folk how their characters would spend their summer vacations if super heroes were allowed to take a holiday. Here's what they had to say.

MIGHTY MARVEL
FAN PHONE (516)352-1212
IT'S THE COST OF A REGULAR CALL FROM ANYWHERE IN THE UNITED STATES AND WON'T EXCEED 35 CENTS.
YOUR INSIDE CONNECTION AT MARVEL

Ultra-prolific writer **Gerry Jones** [redacted] [redacted] two answers. "Wonder Man would do 'Death of a Salesman' in summer stock. It would be the [redacted] time where instead of just dying, Willie Loman would go off in an ionic blast." As for Hulk 2099, whom Gerry writes every three months in 2099 UNLIMITED, "He would go down to the lifeless sands of polluted California, and basking under the irradiated skies of [redacted] ozoneless future, toast himself to a golden green!"

Gerry's partner on WONDER MAN, penciller **Jeff Johnson**, has [redacted] different acting gig in mind for Simon Williams. Jeff [redacted] Wonder Man would spend his [redacted] "guest-starring on 90210!" (Sounds like a dangerous job! That Shannon Doherty is one tough customer!)

AKIRA translator **Jo Duffy** said that the cast [redacted] that series would most likely "visit and destroy by telekinesis various lovely cities around the world."

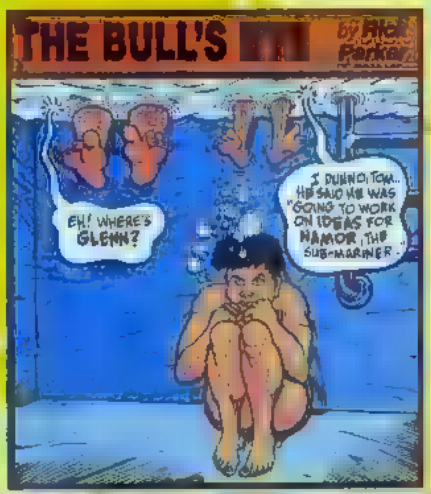
The writing duo of [redacted] and **Tony Skinner** write two of the 2099 books. (Together, that makes 4198!) These travel agents of the future have lots of activities lined up for their characters. Noted Pat and Tony, "Punisher 2099 would open up another wing of his Punishment Hotel — building [redacted] bigger [redacted] for more scum. And Ravage would go [redacted] safari and wrestle lions and head-butt rhinos."

Ron [redacted], who [redacted] to [redacted] from the alternate future of WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD, [redacted] of the hero of that book, "Jake Cardigan doesn't take [redacted]. The last time he tried, five separate Tek cartels tried [redacted] ambush him!"

Wet behind the ears NAMOR scripter **Glenn Herdling** said the [redacted] true Sub-Mariner would "go to Sea-World [redacted] spend his vacation with [redacted] few relatives!"

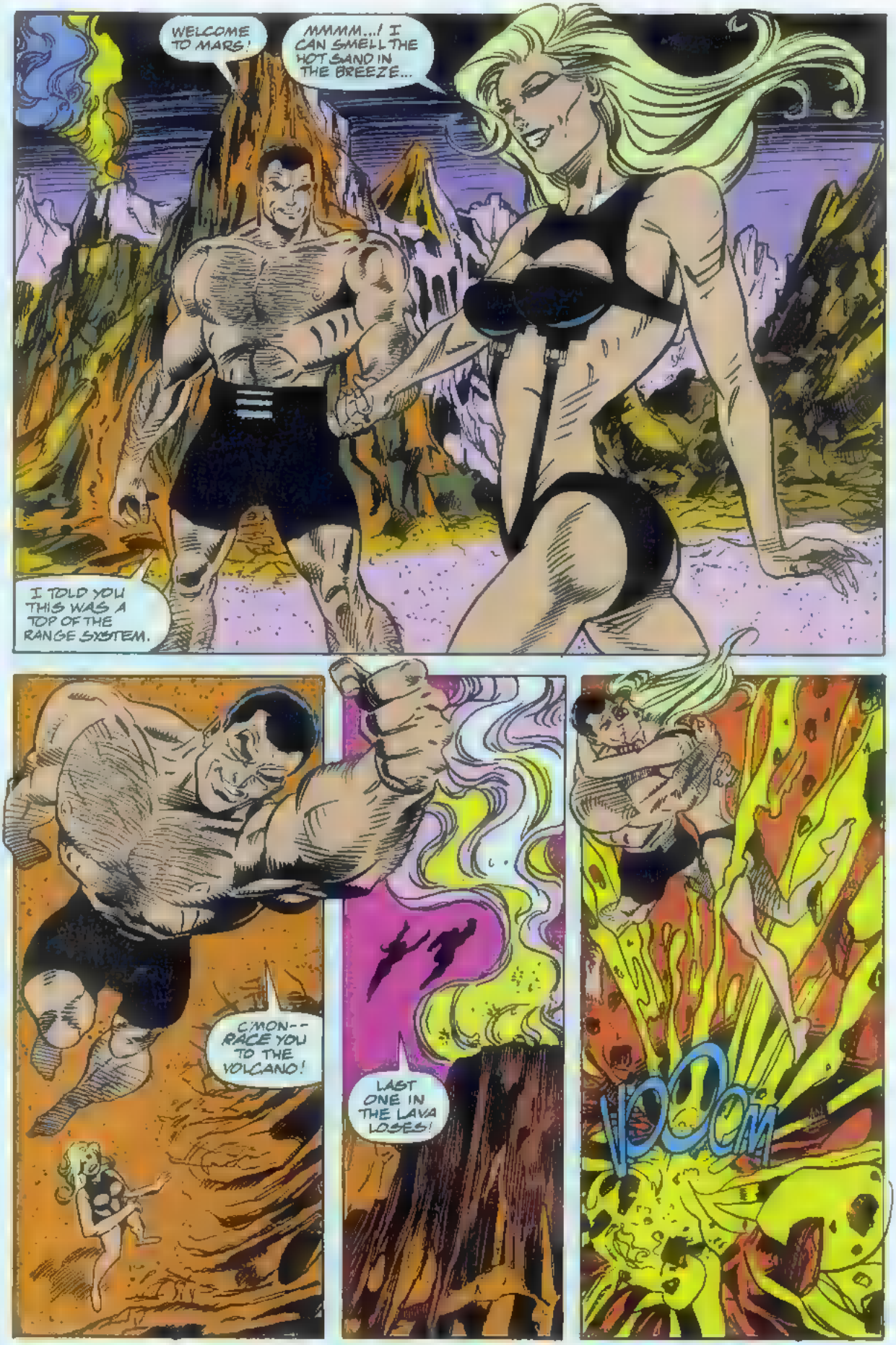
Finally, [redacted] have [redacted] DOG [redacted] **Ty Templeton**, who said that Bob McCay's classic canine hero would "do one of two things: he'd either go on [redacted] good will tour of the fire hydrants of New England, [redacted] he'd recuperate from a particularly unpleasant de-worming!"

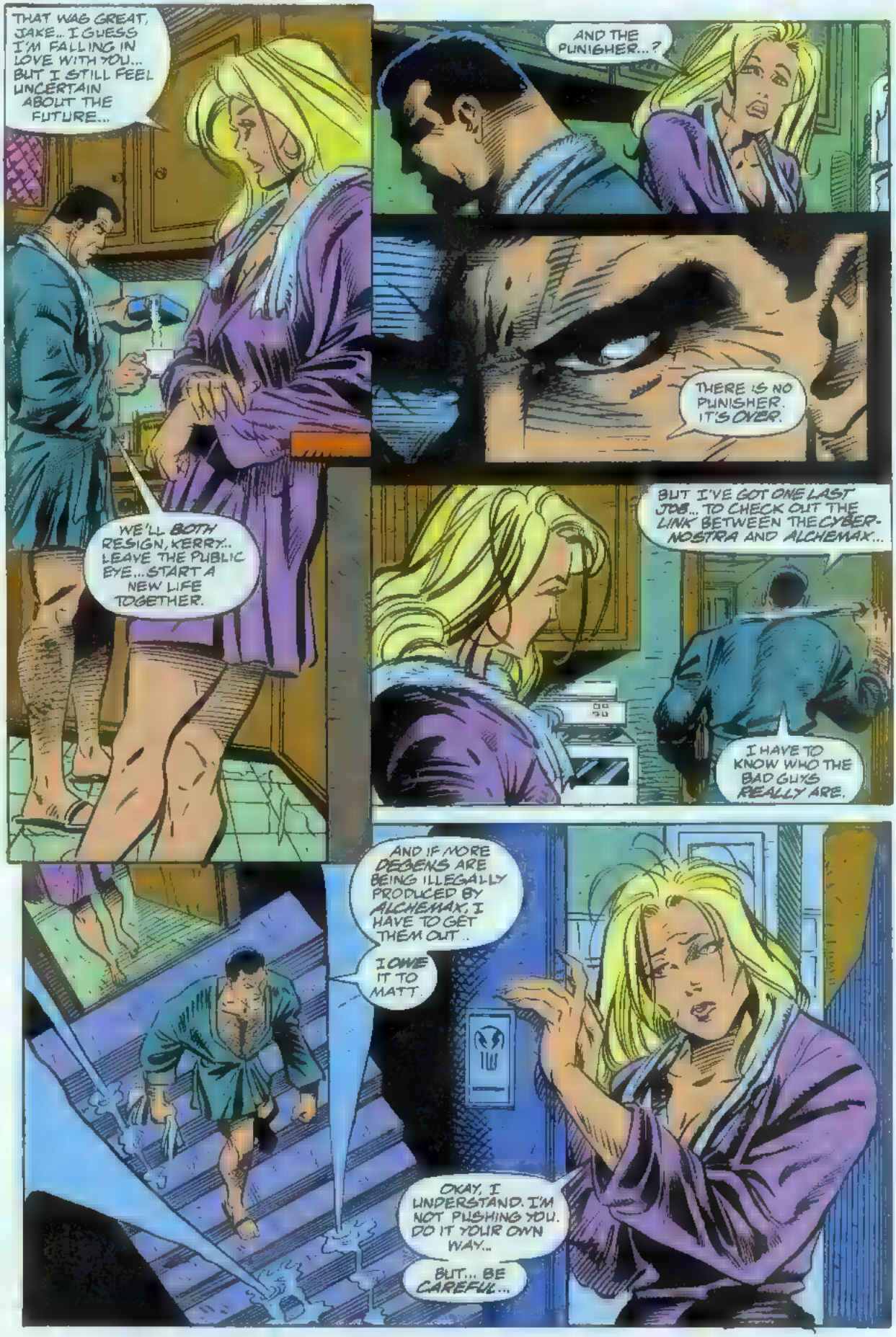
We don't know about you, but this page has given [redacted] lots of neat ideas on how to spend our own vacation!


THE BULL'S [redacted]
by Rick Parker
EH! WHERE'S GLENN?
I DUNNO, TOM... HE SAID HE WAS GOING TO WORK ON IDEAS FOR NAMOR, THE SUB-MARINER...

HYPELINE: ON SALE THIS WEEK

- ☐ **AKIRA #36:** Back by popular demand!
- ☐ **AVENGERS: TERMINATRIX OBJECTIVE #1 OF 4:** With Thunderstrike, USAgent and War Machine!
- ☐ **BARBIE FASHION #33:** Barbie hits the right notes at a jazz festival!
- ☐ **BLACK AXE #6:** Black Panther guest-stars!
- ☐ **CONAN SAGA #78:** Conan, Red Sonja, and lustful vampires!
- ☐ **DANCES WITH DEMONS #1:** It's Frontier-ific!
- ☐ **DEATH'S HEAD II #10:** Beginning DH2's origin!
- ☐ **DEATHLOK #27:** Siege is going over the edge!
- ☐ **DOCTOR WHO: CLASSIC COMICS #9:** These reprints are like time machines to the past!
- ☐ **DR. STRANGE #57:** Urthona wants to go to war!
- ☐ **FANTASTIC FOUR #390:** Ben Grimm wants Doc Doom dead!
- ☐ **FEUD #3 OF 4:** The Skids invade Stoker Castle!
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER ANNUAL #1:** Introducing Night Terror, a vicious vampire!
- ☐ **GHOST RIDER/BLAZE: SPIRITS OF VENGEANCE #14:** Big changes for Blaze!
- ☐ **HELLSTORM #6:** Some girls are more trouble when they're dead!
- ☐ **HOKUM & HEX #1:** A deep cut from Clive Barker's Razorline!
- ☐ **THE INCOMPLETE DEATH'S HEAD #9 OF 12:** DH battles Doctor Who!
- ☐ **THE INFINITY CRUSADE #4 OF 6:** Silver Surfer is transformed!
- ☐ **IRON MAN #296:** Tony and Rhodey go at it like a couple of Rock'em Sock'em Robots!
- ☐ **LAWDOG #5:** He won't roll over for anyone!
- ☐ **MARVEL SPOTLIGHT:** Complete checklist of next month's Marvels!
- ☐ **MARVEL UNIVERSE MASTER EDITION #34:** Thunderstrike stars!
- ☐ **METEOR MAN #2 OF 6:** MM reborn!
- ☐ **MOON KNIGHT #54:** The Shadowkeep demon revealed!
- ☐ **THE 'NAM #84:** War is over! This series has been discharged! Move out!
- ☐ **NEW WARRIORS #39:** Super-Nova is gunning for regular Nova!
- ☐ **PUNISHER 2099 #8:** Jake ain't afraid o' no Fear [redacted]!
- ☐ **PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #58:** Ghost Rider and Daredevil guest-star!
- ☐ **SILVER SURFER #84:** Surf meets his dead parents!
- ☐ **SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #204:** Rematch with Tombstone!
- ☐ **WILLIAM SHATNER'S TEKWORLD #13:** Concluding "Warbride!"
- ☐ **THOR #486:** Thor battles Dracula! INFINITY CRUSADE crossover!
- ☐ **JOE KUBERT'S TOR #4 OF 4:** He's [redacted] mighty Tor!
- ☐ **USAGENT #4 OF 4:** The final secret of Scourge revealed!
- ☐ **VENOM: FUNERAL PYRE # 2 OF 3:** With Punisher and Pyre!
- ☐ **WHAT THE?! FALL SPECIAL:** Meet Spider-Ham 2099!
- ☐ **X-FORCE #26:** Cable gets de-regulated!
- ☐ **X-MEN CLASSIC #87:** [redacted] and Juggernaut in a barroom brawl!
- ☐ **X-MEN UNLIMITED #2:** One human can kill Magneto!


WELCOME TO MARS!
MMMM...! I CAN SMELL THE HOT SAND IN THE BREEZE...
I TOLD YOU THIS WAS A TOP OF THE RANGE SYSTEM.
C'MON-- RACE YOU TO THE VOLCANO!
LAST ONE IN THE LAVA LOSES!
BOOM


THAT WAS GREAT, JAKE... I GUESS I'M FALLING IN LOVE WITH YOU... BUT I STILL FEEL UNCERTAIN ABOUT THE FUTURE...
WE'LL BOTH RESIGN, KERRY... LEAVE THE PUBLIC EYE... START A NEW LIFE TOGETHER.
AND THE PUNISHER...?
THERE IS NO PUNISHER. IT'S OVER.
BUT I'VE GOT ONE LAST JOB... TO CHECK OUT THE 'LINK' BETWEEN THE CYBER-NOSTRA AND ALCHEMAX...
I HAVE TO KNOW WHO THE BAD GUYS REALLY ARE.
AND IF MORE DEGENS ARE BEING ILLEGALLY PRODUCED BY ALCHEMAX, I HAVE TO GET THEM OUT...
I OWE IT TO MATT.
OKAY, I UNDERSTAND. I'M NOT PUSHING YOU. DO IT YOUR OWN WAY...
BUT... BE CAREFUL...

NEBULA HOSPICE
SISTERHOOD OF THE IDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT
I TRUST THERE WILL BE NO MORE ESCAPES LIKE THE MR. MUSCLES PROTECT, STONE...
I DON'T CARE HOW MANY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SUFFER FOR OUR MUTUAL PROFIT..
...BUT YOU'RE SLOPPY, TYLER... AND THAT'S UNFORGIVABLE.
NOT ONLY DID YOU LET THE DEGEN ESCAPE...BUT THERE WAS THE WHOLE SPIDER-MAN FIASCO...
HUH...HELP ME! MAKE THEM STOP THE TREATMENT! HUGH!
YOUR TRACK RECORD ISN'T SO HOT, SPACEMAN. YOU'VE YET TO ELIMINATE THIS PUNISHER WHO'S KILLING HALF THE PEOPLE IN THE CITY...
...INCLUDING MY SON KRON.
SO BUY ANOTHER SON.

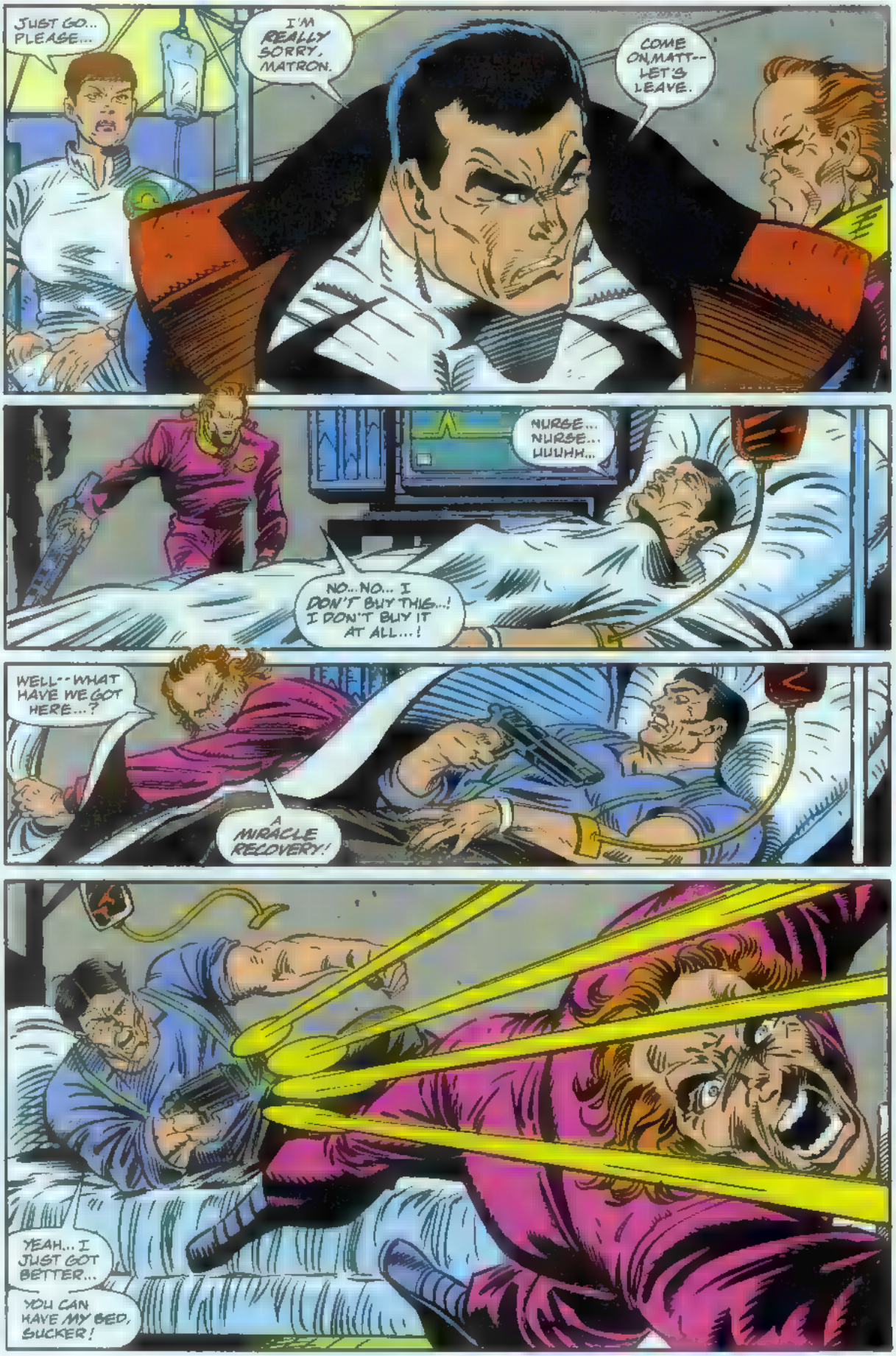
BE CAREFUL, KING.
[redacted] I HAVE TO REMIND YOU WE HAVE EQUAL STATUS IN ALCHEMAX? HOWEVER CLOSE YOU MAY BE TO YOUR I.F.O.'S...
THOOP
WOOP
FIGHT
FIGHT
WEEEP
PERHAPS, STONE, YOU NEED REMINDING OF MY CONNECTIONS.
YOUR NAME MAY BECOME MORE LITERAL THAN YOU WOULD WISH...
[redacted] ME INTO STONE, HUH...? LIKE THOSE GIRLS OF YOURS...
...YOU'RE PATHETIC!
TRY ANY OF THAT JUNK WITH ME AND I'LL PUSH BACK SO HARD THEY'LL BE SEARCHING THE RUBBLE FOR YOUR REMAINS.
ER--ENOUGH OF THIS SQUABBLIN[redacted]... MATRON MARRES... I TRUST SECURITY IN THIS ESTABLISHMENT HAS [redacted] TIGHTENED..?
YES, SIR. EXCUSE ME ONE MOMENT..

GET IN THERE, YOU ANIMAL!
THWEEP! MEWWLL! MOMMY!
SMAK
YOU DON'T HAVE A MOMMY! YOU'RE A FREAK!
SORRY ABOUT THAT, SIR.
NO PROBLEM MATRON. JUST DOING YOUR JOB, AND VERY WELL, TOO, BY THE LOOK OF IT.
FRONT OF SHOP SECURITY HAS BEEN INCREASED AND ALL OTHER EXITS HAVE BEEN WELDED UP.
DO NOT LEAVE ROOM UNLESS ALL CAGES ARE LOCKED
WHAT ABOUT FIRE EXITS?
THERE AREN'T ANY.
I TOLD YOU I HAD ALL THIS IN HAND. WHY DON'T YOU CONCENTRATE ON DISPOSING OF THE PUNISHER...?
HAVE NO FEAR ON THAT SCORE. I'VE FOUND A WAY OF DISCOVERING HIS SECRET IDENTITY.

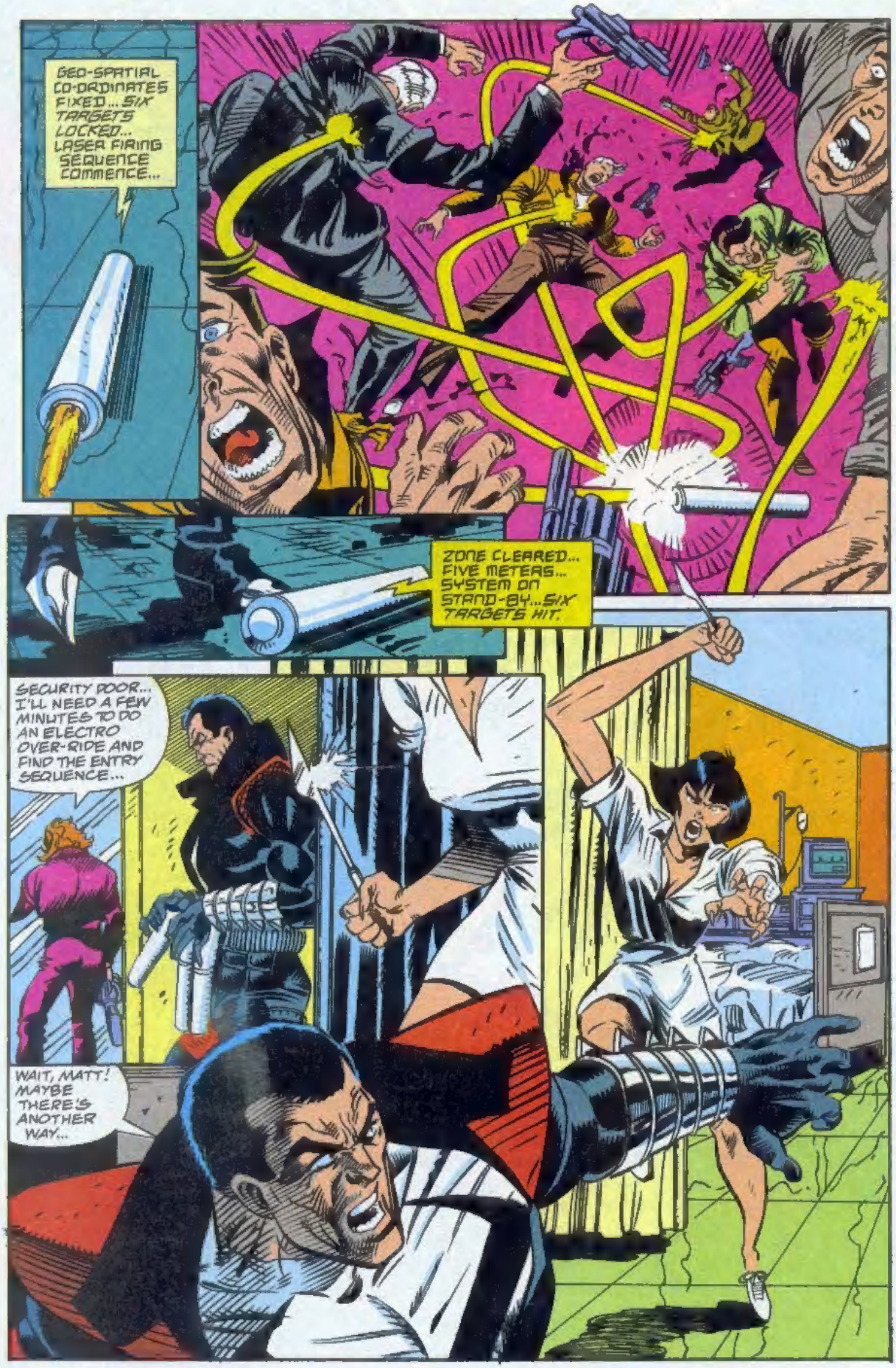
YOU'RE INTRIGUING ME... I HAVE TO ADMIT I HAVE A SIMILAR PROBLEM WITH SPIDER-MAN... WHAT ARE THE DETAILS...?
WE NEED TO TALK. DON'T CALL YOUR TRANSPORT... LET'S USE MY CAR-- MY CHAUFFEUR IS WAITING.
MY SOURCES TELL ME A MS. KERRY DOWE[redacted]... A PARA-PSYCH AT THE PUBLIC EYE... HAD A FILE ON THE PUNISHER...
...AND HINTED TO HER COLLEAGUES SHE KNEW WHO HE WAS...
THEN--FOR NO GOOD REASON-- SHE WENT IN [redacted] DAY AND WIPED THE FILE.
NOW--IT SEEMS REASONABLE TO ME--THAT IF I WANT TO FIND THE PUNISHER, MS. DOWENN'S WHERE TO START.
I'M GOING TO DEAL WITH THIS YOUNG WOMAN PERSONALLY.
POOR GIRL

JAKE...I WANT YOU TO DO THIS ONE FOR ME...
I KNOW THERE ARE DEGENS BEING EXPERI-MENTED ON IN THE NEBULA HOSPICE...
U'D BE SURE ABOUT THIS, MATT. I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE ABOUT SMASHING MY WAY INTO A HOSPICE FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL.
WELL...COMPUTER RECORDS SHOW NO ADMITTANCES SINCE IT OPENED.
BUT FRIENDS OF MR. MUSCLES SAID THIS WAS WHERE HE WAS TAKEN WHEN HE GOT SICK.
WHO OWNED MR. MUSCLES..? ALCHEMAX. WHO RUNS THIS PLACE..? ALCHEMAX.
WHO MAKES ENERGIDE...? ALCHEMAX. FIGURE IT OUT, JAKE.
I GOT IT FIGURED.

EXCUSE ME, BUT YOU CAN'T...
EXCUSE ME...!
NOBODY MOVE--OR YOU'RE ALL DEAD MEAT!
I BEG YOUR PARDON? THIS ISN'T VISITING HOURS.
WHAT THE ****...?
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS INTRUSION...? WHO ARE YOU PEOPLE..?
MATT, YOU'VE BLOWN IT!
HOW DARE YOU COME IN HERE WAVING GUNS..? THIS IS A HOSPICE...THESE PEOPLE ARE SICK AND DYING!
I... I...


JUST GO... PLEASE...
I'M REALLY SORRY, MATRON.
COME ON, MATT-- LET'S LEAVE.
NURSE... NURSE... UUUHH...
NO... NO... I DON'T BUY THIS...! I DON'T BUY IT AT ALL...!
WELL-- WHAT HAVE WE GOT HERE...?
A MIRACLE RECOVERY!
YEAH... I JUST GOT BETTER...
YOU CAN HAVE MY BED, SUCKER!

SO, MR. PUNISHER... NOW YOU KNOW THE SECRET OF OUR HOME FOR THE TERMINALLY ILL.
YEAH-- I GET THE PICTURE... IT'S ALL A FRONT...
LOVE AND BULLETS!
DIE, YOU...! AAGHH!
I'LL TAKE 'EM OUT WITH A GRENAZER.
THIS SURE BEATS LYING HERE PLAYING "PATIENTS 'N' NURSES..."
YEAH--WE GET PAID TO KILL--NOT LIE IN BED.


GEO-SPATIAL CO-ORDINATES FIXED... SIX TARGETS LOCKED... LASER FIRING SEQUENCE COMMENCE...
ZONE CLEARED... FIVE METERS... SYSTEM ON STAND-BY... SIX TARGETS HIT.
SECURITY DOOR... I'LL NEED A FEW MINUTES TO DO AN ELECTRO OVER-RIDE AND FIND THE ENTRY SEQUENCE...
WAIT, MATT! MAYBE THERE'S ANOTHER WAY...

YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT DEGENS...LET'S SEE IF YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR OWN LIFE.
PUNCH IN THE ACCESS CODE... OR DIE!
OKAY, OKAY! I'M DOING IT!
MATT! STAY BACK TILL IT'S CLEAR!
WHZZZZ
ZZPP
PTANG
QUICKER I TAKE THESE GUYS OUT... THE QUICKER I'LL BE BACK WITH KERRY...
HE'S RUNNING INTO OUR FIRE! GET OUT OF HERE! HE'S CRAZY!

THIS IS THE LAST TIME, KERRY...THE FINAL MISSION...
I'M COMING HOME...
I'VE FOUND SOMETHING BETTER TO DO AT NIGHTS...
YOU'RE ALL THAT MATTERS NOW.
NEXT ISSUE:
REQUIEM

TARGET PRACTICE

Joey Cavalieri, Editor • Matthew Morra, Assistant Editor

c/o Marvel Comics • 387 Park Avenue South • New York, New York 10016

All letters for publication must include your name and address, although we will gladly withhold that info upon request.

Out Of My Head

All right, I've had it! I'm tired of entering a bookstore with bucks in my back pocket, looking at the science fiction rack, and leaving empty-handed! From now on, here are THE RULES...

1) You guys with your elves and magic jewels and trolls and singing swords, get out of the science fiction section! Go start your own!

2) *Especially* get out of the section with these books with elves and magic jewels and trolls and singing swords *on starships!*

3) If you're a big, fat, dead cult leader, *stop writing books! You're dead!*

THE RULES *will* be enforced!

Dear Pat and Tony,

A few months ago I would have put PUNISHER on the bottom rung of the 2099 ladder. This is not criticism, just personal preference. Then you guys pulled a fast one. Real fast.

Issue #5 was as exciting as a Spielberg movie and #6 even more so. The kinetic accumulator is one of the most imaginative gimmicks I've come across in English (not just comics, but books too). Jake Gallows' face scrambler is second in originality and effectiveness only to Mr. Kent's glasses.

If the sky's the limit, your typewriters are on cloud nine. Keep it up.

Steve Perram
2920 Meridian St.
Bellingham, WA 98225

A Spielberg movie, huh? You may have something there. How about *Jurassic Park* 2099? *Hook* 2099? *1941* 2099?

Dear Target Practice,

PUNISHER 2099 is by far one of the best comic series ever! I love the artwork! Jake Gallows looks so real in his facial expressions and his outfit doesn't look like it was just painted on. The storyline so far is excellent! I love the way Jake has his face scrambler and the invisibility of his bike. The high-tech equipment is neat, especially Jake's chair that disintegrates people. His underground prison was another great idea! It's kind of sad though that the future has no punishment for crime. But thanks to the Punisher that should change!

I notice that there aren't many letters from female readers in most comics, especially PUNISHER 2099. Guys may think that we wouldn't like all of the violence, but I love it! I get a personal high every time I see the Punisher bash in bad guys' skulls with his really cool variable density bat!

Is Jake going to have an arch-enemy coming up soon? Will you reveal more on how the original Punisher died?

Is there any chance of Jake having a relationship with a woman? I think a girlfriend would calm his nerves. Maybe a counterpart—a punisherette!

I can't wait for next issue. All I can say is keep up the awesome work! Later!

Heather Galuzzi
10824 Pinale Rd.
Apple Valley, CA 92307

Heather, between Fearmaster, Multi-Fractor, Mr. Slithar, the Cyber-Nostra, the Ninja Nostra and the Public Eye, doesn't Jake have his hands full? We don't think so either. Wait for the premiere of Jigsaw 2099!

As for Jake getting a girlfriend, how do you like Kerry?

Dear Joey and Matt,

Being the Punisher fan that I am, I checked out PUNISHER 2099. I'm happy to say that after five issues, I enjoy the new version just as much as the original.

I enjoy the way you show futuristic equipment as classics for 2099. My personal favorites are the .54 magnum and the molecular disintegrator. Jake Gallows combines the past and present by using the classic .54 magnum along with the power bat and other futuristic gear.

There are a number of things which concern me though.

1) Does the injury Gallows received (issue #1, page 20—microwaves to the kneecaps) affect him at all, or is that the reason he wears the knee pads?

2) How does he feel about Thorites converting to Spiderism (as seen in SPIDER-MAN 2099 #9), being the Thorite he is?

3) Is Matt Jake Gallows' version of Frank Castle's Microchip?

And how about a crossover? Since Jake read Castle's War Journal (another excellent idea), he knows about the original Spider-Man. Maybe they could confront each other and it could be called, "together again for the first time." Catchy, huh?

Also, Gallows should know about Dr. Doom, so will he be knocking on Doom's door? While we're at it, why not have the Punisher catch a news flash about Ravage on the ol' tube?

Until I get some mutant powers of my own, make mine Marvel!

Robert Andrews
2225 Navarre Rd. SW
Canton, OH 44706

You already have a mutant power, Rob—an active mind! Hope these answers satisfy it.

1) Jake fully recovered from the injuries he suffered at the hands of Kron Stone in issue #1. The knee pads are for protection.

2) Not sure yet.

3) Sort of.

***All* the 2099 characters will meet in our crossover, "The Fall of the Hammer," even including the new X-MEN 2099! See everybody team up this December!**

Dear Target Practice,

I love your comic! It's the best. A few requests:

1) Kill the Fearmaster.

2) Make Spider-Man 2099 guest-star.

3) Make Frank Castle somehow guest star.

4) Make Thor guest star.

Till the Punisher needs a self-defense class, make mine Marvel.

Brian Mitchell
(Address withheld by request)

You make it all sound so easy, Brian! We'll definitely be doing more stuff with the Thorites, especially in the big crossover, but as for the rest...

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #12 *We've had a lot of reader requests to see more of the "Virtual Unreality Department" of Alchemax...now, you get to see it in all its glory...and the coming of...the Prophet!*

RAVAGE 2099 #10 *At last! The fearsome face of Ravage revealed in "Rebirth of the Beast!" Plus, Barrio Man from PUNISHER 2099 makes a guest appearance!*

DOOM 2099 #9 *Jack the Ripper! Frankenstein's Monster! The villains of the past meet the ultimate villain of the future!*

2099 UNLIMITED #2 *You asked for the return of HULK 2099! Gerry Jones, Dwayne Turner and Kyle Baker were glad to oblige!*

NEXT ISSUE

The Fearmaster returns...crueler than ever, as "Love and Bullets" continues!